

First United Church of Christ
504 Washington Ave.
Sauk City, WI 53583

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Find us:

- www.ucc-saukcity.org
- firstuccsauk.churchtrac.com
- For the Youtube channel type:
“ *First UCC Sauk City Youtube* ” into your search engine
- On Facebook at: First United Church of Christ- Sauk City

*Or if you'd like to sit down with the pastor
and solve the world's problems over a cup of
coffee, give me a call. I'll buy the first cup.
Brad Brookins—608-669-2926 (or drop me an email)*

The Scoop

June, 2023

This Month at First...

June 4th Coffee Fellowship ONA
June 13th 6:00 p.m. Christian Fellowship
June 15th 6:00 p.m. Consistory Meeting
June 18th Coffee Fellowship

Interim Pastor: Pastor Brad Brookins
Office hours: 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Monday through Thursday
Office phone: 608-643-8387
Office email: office@ucc-saukcity.org
Pastor's Cell phone: 608-669-2926
Email: brad_brookins@ucc-saukcity.org

June, 2023

From the Interim Pastor...

Here we are at the month of June and very near the halfway point in 2023. How in the world does time go by so fast these days.

June 4 will mark my first anniversary serving as your interim pastor. I can't let this date pass without expressing my gratitude for the opportunity you have given me to get acquainted with you, to work with the wonderful folks who volunteer to keep First Church running smoothly, and to worship in this community for almost every one of the past 52 Sundays. It is a genuine privilege and pleasure to work here—so Thank You!

There are a couple of things that will be happening this month that I want to call your attention to. As most of you know, June is celebrated as Pride Month by our LGBTQ neighbors and those of us who count ourselves as their allies. Your Open and Affirming Committee is offering two opportunities for any of us who wish to, to join in the celebrations.

First, on June 4 we will have a special guest speaker for our worship time. He is a friend of mine from Mt Horeb—Justin Wilder. Justin and I serve on the board of the Mt Horeb PFLAG chapter. PFLAG is a community organization offering support, advocacy, and education on behalf of LGBTQ persons, their families and their friends. I've asked Justin to tell his story of growing up in the church, his childhood dream of being a pastor when he grew up, and the loss of that dream when he realized the church, as he knew it then, would never accept a gay man as a "true" Christian, much less a pastor. He will also talk, from his own experience, about the life changing—and *lifesaving*, benefit for queer kids who grow up in families *and in churches* that accept them and love them as the people God made them to be. Following the service, the O&A Committee will host a coffee and treats fellowship and a Question-and-Answer time with Justin. You won't want to miss this day. Justin is a kind and compassionate man and a very good storyteller.

And then, on June 11, we were invited to march with the Mt Horeb PFLAG group and 2 or 3 other churches in Mt Horeb's Frolic Parade. The Frolic is not a Pride Parade, it is Mt Horeb's effort to showcase dozens of different community groups and organizations. I have marched with my friends in this parade for several years now, and it is always great fun. It is hugely important for churches that have declared themselves to be Open and Affirming of our LGBTQ neighbors to make that affirmation publicly—to show our support with our feet as well as with our words. I'll have more information coming soon and I am hoping we can put together a strong representation from First Church.

That's all for this month. I'll see you in church.

In great hope,

Brad

If you can't be with us in person, you have other options. And we'd love to have you join us any way you can—



View our Live Youtube broadcast of the 9:00 a.m. service. Recordings of past services, can also be seen on our Youtube channel. Type “*First UCC Sauk City Youtube*” into your search engine



We have a live radio broadcast of the worship service every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. Tune in to WRPQ Radio—AM 740, FM 99.7, or Live Stream the audio from the WRPQ.com website.

Radio broadcast sponsorship spots are available!

If you would like to sponsor a radio broadcast in memory of a loved one or for any other special reason, please contact the church office by phone or email and we will give you the list of available dates.

HELP US KEEP OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY UP TO DATE!

Please let us know when your mailing address, phone number or email address has changed, or will change, so we do not leave you out of any church mailings.

We can send The Scoop and other informational mailings through the Post Office or by email. Email saves time and money for the church by using less paper, postage and administrative time. Please let us know if you are able and willing to be on our email list for future mailings. If you prefer paper copies delivered by mail, we can do that, too.

Consistory Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 18, 2023

Present: Pastor Brad, Carrie Finley, Rose Kleinert, Tim Henning, Peggy Ganser, Barb Sprecher, Heather Miller, Tammy Young

Opening Prayer: Pastor Brad

Discussion:

- ❖ Finance Committee is promoting we use Church Windows for our accounting purposes, and it can also be used in several other church applications; we would still like to use ChurchTrac to help guide a new minister in becoming more familiar with our church, it's members and history.
 - Cost for church windows \$600
 - Cost for ChurchTrac \$240
 - Tammy Young made a motion to accept both Church Windows and ChurchTrac. Carrie Finley seconded; motion approved.
- ❖ Research on Church Fund Raising procedures, Carrie.

Committee Update:

Christian Fellowship:

- Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, June 13th at 6:00 pm.

Maintenance:

- Bids for roof repair (leaking near elevator) another bid to include proactive measures.
- Bids for outside painting: windows.

Members In Ministry:

- Made a list of who to visit.

O and A:

- Met May 2nd, see report in June scoop.

Pastor Search:

- The search committee met with Rachel Bauman from the Conference and is proceeding with the next step in finding a permanent minister.

Stewardship:

- No meeting this month.

Sunday School:

- See report in June scoop.

Financial Reports:

- Barb Sprecher made a motion to approve, Peggy Ganser seconded; motion approved.

Closing Prayer: Pastor Brad

*The next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, June 15th at 6:00pm** - Church Park if weather permits.*

Christian Fellowship



There was no meeting held in May

Christian Fellowship welcomes anyone to participate and help with church events. If you would like to know more about us, feel free to talk to any of our members:

Tamera Straub, Deb Tschudy, Dianna Woerpel, Peggy Ganser, Sandy Schlender, Sherry Pieper, Carol Hehenberger and Rose Kleinert.

Chair: Tamera Straub

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, June 13th at 6 pm**



Members in Ministry continue to make visits, make phone calls and deliver communion to those in nursing homes or home bound. If you know of anyone who is at home and would like a visit, phone call and/or communion contact Debbie at 608-963-4873. We will be taking pictures of our members when we make visits for our updated ChurchTrac directory.



Christian Education News



What Has Been Happening

- Next year's theme has been announced! "God's Love is Deeper Than the Ocean, Let's Make a SPLASH!" Enrollment is now available for next year.
 - We had a Great turn out in April with Window Painting. Thank you to the Sprecher and Kinnamon Families for the designs.
 - The Easter Egg Hunt was amazing. We had a great turn out of Adults and Youth. Thank you to all that participated.
 - We had a Great turn out for Youth Group Capture the flag. I have never seen so many phones not attached to students.
 - Whole church potluck and fellowship could not have asked for better weather. We had over 30 people in attendance.
 - Congratulations to our recent confirmed members: Gavin Larsen and Brendan Marquardt
- This summer we hope to have some family and/or church events throughout the summer (smores, pool day, movie, hide and seek, let us know your ideas)
Start of the new program year begins September 10th.

Upcoming events

- Graduation Sunday 9:00 June 4th. We will recognize Seniors graduating and those that have volunteered in the church
- New Program year will kick off September 10th, 2023

Youth Group and Education Class Photos on our Church Connect Site
Christian Education Questions or Ideas please sent to: firstuccsaukce@gmail.com





The D.I.S.H.

Developing Inclusivity and Selfless Hospitality

June 2023

Hello! It has been a while since the O & A Committee has put out an edition of the DISH, but we are back!

June is **LGBTQ+ Pride Month** and First UCC–Sauk City is planning a few activities.

On June 4th we will have a guest speaker, Justin Wilder. Justin will tell his story about growing up in church and wanting to be a pastor when he became an adult. He gave up that dream in his middle and high school years when he realized he was gay and his church made clear that they held no place for a gay kid, much less a gay pastor. He will talk about the *life saving power*, for LGBTQ kids especially, of welcoming and accepting families and churches. The O&A Committee will host a reception with refreshments following the service and just before a Q & A time with Justin in the Fireside Room. In celebration of Pride Month and our Open & Affirming status, we are asking the congregation to wear a solid color shirt or a shirt with an affirming message (like the Sauk Prairie Pride shirts, Be Kind...). We will take a picture right after the service.

June 11th the congregation of First UCC-Sauk City is invited to participate in the Frolic Parade in Mt. Horeb. We will be walking with the Mt Horeb PFLAG group as one of 4 churches that are Open & Affirming. Please see Pastor Brad for details.



Search Committee News

The Search Committee is excited to announce that we have received four Pastoral Profiles for a new minister; we will be reviewing these Profiles at our next meeting which is June 1st. We will keep the congregation updated as we start to schedule interviews. If anyone is interested in reviewing our own Church profile you can find it by searching the UCC Wisconsin Conference Job Openings website.

Pastoral Search Committee Chair

Happy Anniversary



Mr. & Mrs. Frank Kirchstein on 68 years of marriage

Mr. & Mrs. Polacek on 56 years of marriage

Memorials Report

Memorials were received in May in loving memory of:

Mary Rissberg
Larry Gander

A monetary gift was received from the following:

Lois Pieper
Chanda Manning
Verda McFarlane
Dianna Woerpel



Our Radio Broadcast Sponsors for the month of June are:



June 11th Mark & Rhonda Pierick

June 18th Cliff & Jan Lawton – in memory of their loving son
Russell Lawton

Stock the Schools



For the month of June, we will be collecting jars of peanut butter and jelly. New or gently used leggings or sweatpants.

Appreciation Corner

"Always be rejoicing. Give thanks for everything." 1 Thessalonians 5:16, 18. Gratitude refers to the ability to show thanks for the things you have and the things you're grateful for. It helps you get closer to God by recognizing all the blessings in your life and makes it easier to focus on the positive.



Thank you to all of the congregation for the thoughts, prayers, cards, food, and other acts of kindness given when Larry passed away. It is all truly appreciated.

Nettie, Rhonda, Gayle,
Andrea, + Jacob Gander



Our radio broadcast is one of the most valuable things we offer for our members, thank you thank you thank you to those who run the radio room.



Thank-you to the following who contributed to this year's Flower Fund:

Sharal Steuber, Diana Woerpel, Lois Pieper, Tom & Margaret McFarlane, Sauk Prairie Nursery Center, Fred Kamps, Cliff & Jan Lawton, Peggy Ganser, Sherrie Pieper, Tammie Huerth, and Barb Sprecher

A special thank-you to Emily Fuchs and Diana Woerpel for planting the planters and the Office Angels for watering!

Along with all those flowers comes work, special thanks to everyone who helps in keeping our church grounds looking so beautiful; from mowing the lawn to pulling weeds ...



If you would like to offer a word of appreciation to anyone, please reach out to the church office; there are many people behind the scenes that do so much for the church – we applaud you.

June 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3 Mara Steuber Ted Larsen
4	5 Jennifer Brickl	6 Ella Logterman Bennett Finley	7 Dayton Ballweg Katie Baier	8 Maddie Sprecher	9	10 Dorothy Kundert
11 Jan Henning	12 Kristeen Statz	13	14 Clyde Pellett	15 Theresa Grimes	16 Kassia Marquardt	17 Emilie Novotny Melissa Brickl Austin Litscher
18	19	20	21 Jeff Dyrud	22	23	24
25 Sandy Jensen	26 Christy Kinnamon	27 Lyle Kuhnau Tyler Klingenmeyer	28 Pat Boemer Henry Niederklopher	29	30	1
2	3					